

6-1952

Notes: Commencement Address: June 1952 (Fragments)

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THEME Commencement - June 1952

1. A warm & grateful welcome - parents friends of our grads. glad you can share this happy & significant occasion with them & with us. parents perhaps most important - end of years of planning & trying - this day. hope it has been a winning experience.
2. Sprague. Chairman, Seniors - widely known in Church - also here on campus - [Commencement speaker & special lecturer J.W. Miller] brings to his talks a transforming touch. reflection of high intelligence & deep faith - awareness of the function of the worshiping and serving Church - privilege & honor - A.C.P.
3. Statement: L.V.A. ^{last year} yesterday - 75,000 Gilly - remarkable - students on Student Union project. example of initiative, loyalty & devotion - many Seniors responsible - their public word of gratitude therefore very much in order.
Faculty: heart of institution - here their work extends far beyond classroom - personal counselling - all the values of friendship and understanding - happy to pay tribute to our teaching staff. hope you will meet them so that they are to you more than anonymous disguised figures in black robes.
Now - a word from a man. long & splendid contribution W.C.D.

Jan. 23/64

TEXT

THEME

OCCASION

Your education - type - provided the answer - both negative & positive - you have learned to be sceptical - cautious - easy solutions - pat answers - clichés - positively - then on answers - in the New Gospel - in the still small voice of the living God talking about - if you please now, in the

haunting, compelling urgency of the Man on the Cross. When Thomas Carlyle was dying the students at Edinburgh went to him for a message at their graduation - old and ill, Carlyle raised himself in his bed and said: "Tell them not to listen to the voice of the world, with its noises, its murmur & its delirium; tell them to consult the Sacred Voice, not yet inaudible or ever to become so - my son - if you don't do that, what will you do - ^{you?} do with the truth voice learned - with the X you know, with the souls you are - what will you do if you do not cling to the better thing - reach for the living Christ - who stands ^{now} alone above the ^{fallen} future of the earth - in whose eyes all your tomorrows are the Eternal Now - reach for Him for everything you need to live and to die -

8. And that must be - must be - the ultimate meaning of your education - I know that it will not be easy to cling to the ^{all} better thing - a few years from now the voice of your Alma Mater will sound lonely, far away and more than a little futile - men will tell you that we must be practical about living in the 20th Century - worship one of the two gods we have made for ourselves - money or power - go along with the philosophy of get & grab - compromise & accept - get along as well as you can - No, No, - the world of tomorrow

DATE 6/1/52 OCCASION _____

THEME _____

Charges -

Strength

1. For almost a month subject to the bitterness of farewells - dinners, parties, final class parties, goodbyes to instructors, commandant - all had the theme "goodbye" - but there was always another one coming - but this moment, however, this is it - this is really the last word - the final goodbye from your Alma Mater.
2. You assume special significance at this moment - if your A.M. is to live it will live by your life - you are our only reason - \therefore I charge you to maintain & cherish those ideals which we have tried to hold up before you - the high standards of loyalty & devotion - the great & holy things which will decide your destiny - we who remain will be watching as long as God gives grace & strength - and in all the years beginning now - of night or day, Success or failure, defeat or victory - Our prayer will go with you - God bless you and love you forever.